

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
AID-05 /073 W  
-----027988 231136Z /11

P R 222110Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5079  
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3442

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PEPR, PINS, DR  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT ELECT GUZMAN URGES CALM BUT WARNS AGAINST  
FURTHER DELAYS

REF SANTO DOMINGO 3420

1. PRESIDENT ELECT ANTONIO GUZMAN, IN RADIO SPEECH JUNE 21, URGED DOMINICANS TO AWAIT PATIENTLY THE DECISION OF THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE) AND EXPRESSED ASSURANCE THAT HE WOULD TAKE OFFICE AS PRESIDENT AUG 16. HE WOUND UP THE SPEECH BY URGING THE JCE TO FINISH ITS LABORS.

2. HE SAID HE DID NOT SHARE THE WIDESPREAD FEELING OF UNCERTAINTY WHICH APPEARED TO AFFECT THE COUNTRY'S ACTIVITIES BECAUSE HE BELIEVED IN THE FORCE OF JUSTICE, MODERATION, LAW AND THE WEIGHT OF THE ELECTION RESULTS OF MAY 16. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT THE COUNTRY IS AWAITING A FINAL VERDICT FROM THE JCE AS A NECESSARY STEP TO RESUME NORMAL ACTIVITY AND BLAMED THE CURRENT SITUATION ON THE INTERRUPTION OF THE VOTE TABULATION (MAY 17) "WHICH CANNOT BE ACCEPTABLY EXPLAINED MUCH LESS JUSTIFIED."

3. GUZMAN EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE GREAT MAJORITY OF  
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DOMINICANS FROM ALL WLAKS OF LIFE AND PROFESSIONS DESIRE THAT THE COUNTRY LIVE IN PEACE AND THAT THEIR LIVELIHOOD BE GUARANTEED.

4. GUZMAN RECALLED THAT THE JCE WAS ALREADY FIVE DAYS OVERDUE IN DECLARING A WINNER. HE CONDEMNED REFORMISTA ELECTORAL CHALLENGES WHICH HE SAID ARE AIMED AT "PLANTING THE SEEDS OF DOUBT AS TO THE PURITY AND GOOD ORDER OF THE ELECTIONS," AND CONDEMNED

A SERIES OF MEASURES ADOPTED BY THE ELECTORAL BOARD, INCLUDING THE REMOVAL OF ITS CHAIRMAN, ARREST AND SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN JCE FUNCIONAIRES, AND THE USE OF CHILEAN TECHNICIANS.

5. THE PRESIDENT ELECT CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT IF THE CURRENT INDECISION OF THE BOARD CONTINUED IT WOULD CAUSE GRAVE DAMAGE TO THE COUNTRY.

6. COMMENT. GUZMAN INDICATED TO THE AMBASSADOR (REFTEL) HIS PLANS TO MAKE A MEDIA APPEARANCE AND TO TAKE A CLAM APPROACH. THIS WAS HIS FIRST REAL SPEECH SINCE THE ELECTIONS. HE DID NOT RESIST, HOWEVER, DEMONSTRATING SOME IMPATIENCE WITH THE BOARD'S PROLONGED DELIBERATIONS. IN A SENSE THE TWO THEMES TENDED TO CANCEL EACH OTHER OUT.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ELECTION RESULTS, PRESIDENT ELECT, SPEECHES, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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